

ATTORNEY DOCKET NO  
1454 - C1

PATENT  
U.S. 10/765,443

### Remarks/ Arguments

In response to the Office Action mailed January 24, 2005, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider the rejections of the claims.

Claims 1 - 21 remain.

Claims 1, 3, 5, 7 - 9 12, 14 and 17 are being amended.

Claims 2, 4, 11, and 13 have been cancelled.

Claims 4, 5, 7, 8, and 13 - 15 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 101 as claiming the same subject matter as copending Application Serial No. 10/662,788. The present Application is a continuation of Application Serial No. 10/662,788, and was filed to provide drawings inadvertently left out of the parent. Application Serial No. 10/662,788 has now been allowed; however, Applicants are abandoning Application Serial No. 10/662,788 in favor of the present application by declining to pay the issue fee.

Applicants now present the amendments and arguments which were provided in the parent application to obtain allowance of the remaining claims.

Claims 1- 3, 6, 9 - 12, and 16 - 21 were rejected in the parent and Claims 4, 5, 7, 8, and 13 -15 were objected - to as being improperly based on a rejected base claim, but were otherwise found allowable. Applicants have amended the Claims as follows to place the allowable subject matter into proper form.

Independent Claim 1 has been amended to include the subject matter of objected - to Claim 4 and intervening Claim 2. Claims 2 and 4 have been cancelled.

Objected - to Claims 5, 7, and 8 have each been placed into independent form by including the subject matter of former (un-amended) independent Claim 1 and intervening Claim 2.

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Independent Claim 9 has been amended to include the subject matter of former objected – to Claim 13 and intervening Claim 11. Claims 11 and 13 have been cancelled.

Objected – to Claims 14 and 15 have been placed into proper independent form by inclusion of the subject matter of former (un – amended) independent Claim 9 and intervening Claim 11.

Independent Claim 17, and hence Claims 18 – 21, have been amended to include the subject matter of former Claims 11 and 13.

Remaining Claims 1, 3, 5 – 10, 12, and 15 – 21 should now be in condition for allowance.

No new matter has been added; the claims have been merely amended to more particularly claim the subject matter Applicants believe is inventive. Applicants respectfully submit that the Claims as they now stand are patentably distinct over the art cited during the prosecution thereof.


With the addition of no new claims, no additional filing fees are due. However, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account Number 20-0821 of Thompson & Knight LLP.

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If the Examiner has any questions or comments concerning this paper or the present application in general, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned at (214) 969 - 1749.

Respectfully submitted,  
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